BUDGET 2006

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2006/07 – 2008/09
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Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement

I am pleased to deliver the Service Plan for the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. This Plan gives me the opportunity to describe the practical and measurable actions the Ministry will undertake over the next three fiscal years to develop a new relationship with First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal organizations. This new relationship will be based on mutual respect and recognition.

In every ministry and every sector we are developing new working partnerships with Aboriginal citizens that will move us beyond the barriers of the past. We are building a new relationship that is honourable, constructive and grounded in immediate and practical progress for all British Columbians.

We are negotiating treaties and other agreements in order to materially improve the lives of First Nations and to achieve greater certainty over Crown lands and resources. Treaties and other agreements will stimulate investment, create jobs and expand economies in communities throughout British Columbia and provide a better quality of life for Aboriginal families.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation 2006/07 - 2008/09 Service Plan was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared. All material fiscal assumptions and policy decisions as of February 15, 2006 have been considered in preparing this plan, and I am accountable for achieving the specific objectives in it.

Honourable Tom Christensen
Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

February 15, 2006

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Ministry Overview

The Government of British Columbia is leading the nation in developing a new relationship with First Nations and Aboriginal people. Guided by principles of trust, and by recognition and respect of Aboriginal rights and title, we are building a stronger and healthier relationship between government and Aboriginal people which will benefit all British Columbians.

We are committed to working with Aboriginal leaders, and the Government of Canada, over the next decade to eliminate the gaps in health, education, housing and living standards for Aboriginal people on and off reserve.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation will work with ministries and agencies across government to coordinate efforts in two key areas: practical steps to narrow social and economic gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal British Columbians, and long-term reconciliation through treaties and other lasting agreements.

History

Past relationships between Aboriginal people and the provincial government have been marked by confrontation, litigation and a failure to reconcile differences. To truly understand why our government is committed to improving these relations, it is important to reflect on our province's history.

Pre-confederation, the federal government signed treaties with many First Nations in eastern Canada and that process continued west to the Rockies in advance of European settlement. From 1850 to 1854, 14 settlements were reached with First Nations on Vancouver Island (known as the Douglas Treaties). In 1899, treaties were also reached in northeastern British Columbia, known today as the Treaty 8 Nations. But the colonial and federal governments did not attempt to conclude treaties elsewhere in this province.

When British Columbia joined Canada in 1871, Aboriginal people had no recognized role in political decision-making beyond limited and diminishing governance in their communities. Although they comprised the majority of the population at that time, their rights went unrecognized by the provincial and federal governments. They were subject to federal control under the *Indian Act*. Traditional potlatches — a key component of the social, cultural and political structure of many First Nations — were outlawed. Children were taken from their families and communities, placed in residential schools and forbidden from speaking their languages. Aboriginal people were denied the right to vote and effectively prevented from taking legal action to advance their interests with government. This consistent denial of rights and authority led to the demise of many Aboriginal communities and created a state of dependency.

Despite these overwhelming challenges, First Nations pursued the recognition of their rights and interests into the 1900s and through to contemporary times.

In 1982, Aboriginal rights were recognized and affirmed in the Canadian Constitution. A number of subsequent court decisions placed an obligation on governments to consider Aboriginal interests in decision-making processes. The matter of recognizing Aboriginal rights was established, but a clear definition of those rights was not. This lack of clarity resulted in confrontations, blockades and more court cases as government continued to make decisions about Crown lands and resources.

The resulting uncertainty has limited investors who want to develop resources, and has prevented First Nations from participating in and deriving benefits from land and resource activities.

It was abundantly clear that we needed a way to move beyond the impasse created by the uncertainty caused by undefined rights to the land and resources. We needed treaties and lasting agreements that would set out the respective rights and responsibilities of First Nations and the provincial government. The treaty process was established in 1992 through the British Columbia Treaty Commission to negotiate these issues. However, it was less clear how to go about establishing the trusting and mutually respectful relationships needed to conclude lasting agreements.

Treaty negotiations with First Nations have been a core element of the provincial government's ongoing efforts to establish an improved relationship with Aboriginal people in British Columbia. However, negotiating a comprehensive treaty is complex and takes many years to reach an agreement of this magnitude. While negotiations proceed, the social and economic disparity between Aboriginal people and other British Columbians continues. The Aboriginal population has a shorter life expectancy; rates of diabetes, infant mortality and suicide are higher; graduation rates from high school, college and university are lower; and housing and public works are too often substandard.

In November 2004, the need for a new relationship was reinforced by two Supreme Court of Canada judgments: *Haida Nation* and *Taku River Tlingit First Nation*. The judgments made it clear that governments have an obligation to consult with First Nations when decisions about activities on Crown land could impact their Aboriginal rights and title. The court urged governments and the First Nations to reconcile their differences through negotiation and agreement, as opposed to confrontation and litigation.

Purpose of Ministry

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation plays a key role in accomplishing the Five Great Goals set out by the Government of British Columbia for the next decade: leading the nation in education, health care, social supports, environmental management

and job creation. However, we will only reach these goals when First Nations and Aboriginal people are full participants in the province's development.

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, the provincial government will work collaboratively with First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal organizations to ensure that Aboriginal people are included in the realization of these goals.

The ministry has a leadership role in developing and implementing the ten-year plan to bridge the social and economic gaps that Aboriginal people face. It is developing concrete action plans in collaboration with Aboriginal leaders and provincial government ministries and agencies. These include identifying opportunities to enhance Aboriginal participation in the economy and building capacity in Aboriginal communities.

Provincial legislation will be introduced in the spring of 2006 to create a $100 million New Relationship Fund. The ministry is working with Aboriginal leaders and reflecting on advice from industry, local government and others to finalize the terms of reference for the fund. Once established, this fund will support building capacity within First Nations and among Aboriginal British Columbians to allow them to engage more fully and effectively in the province's economic and social development.

During the term of this Service Plan, the ministry will also focus its resources on concluding treaties and other lasting agreements. It will guide the development of a new and effective consultation framework. Together, these measures will bring us closer to reconciling Crown and Aboriginal interests over land and resources. They will also bring tangible social and economic benefits to First Nations, and advance government's Five Great Goals for all British Columbians.

Vision, Mission and Values

Vision

Guided by principles of trust, recognition, respect and reconciliation of Aboriginal rights and title, we will build a healthy and prosperous future for the benefit of Aboriginal people and all British Columbians.

Mission

The ministry provides leadership across the provincial government that will, over the next decade, bridge the social and economic gaps that many Aboriginal people face in British Columbia. While working collaboratively with Aboriginal organizations, the federal government and other partners to support the goals of the new relationship, the ministry will continue to negotiate and implement treaties and other lasting agreements with First Nations.

Values

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation values are based on recognition, respect and reconciliation of the historical, cultural and political contributions of Aboriginal people in our province. While balancing the interests of all British Columbians with those of Aboriginal people, the ministry seeks bold and innovative solutions, promotes leadership, fosters creative problem-solving and encourages respect and integrity through all levels of the organization. The ministry recognizes the importance of upholding its commitment to the public by conducting open, accountable and transparent business practices.

Strategic Context

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation is positioned to lead change that will provide a legacy of improved understanding and certainty in how relations are conducted between government and Aboriginal people. The ministry will lead stakeholder consultations and engage other partners in these bold initiatives.

Within government, the ministry is in a strong position to provide strategic advice, identify opportunities, remove barriers and stimulate change. This is due to a solid history of relationship-building, a unified mandate and integrated government decision-making. New initiatives, from concept to operation, will reflect the active partnership between Aboriginal leaders and the Government of British Columbia.

The Province of British Columbia, the First Nations Leadership Council and the Government of Canada signed the Transformative Change Accord in November 2005. The Accord is an important development that confirms the federal government's participation with British Columbia and First Nations in the goal of building a new relationship. It sets out a framework for additional federal resources; for examining how existing resources are spent; and for ensuring accountability to the public.

The evolving legal environment with regard to Aboriginal rights presents a challenge to government — namely, to change the manner in which the Crown carries out its legal duty to consult on how its actions might impact Aboriginal rights. A framework for respecting Aboriginal rights through effective consultation, developed with First Nations, will bring a new approach that enhances economic development opportunities for all British Columbians. Because the ministry is working with First Nations to develop this new framework, there is renewed optimism that legal challenges will be replaced with cooperative and creative approaches to resolving our differences.

The ministry will continue to negotiate agreements to provide economic opportunities and support development of lands and resources. Many of these agreements will lead to treaties. Strategically, the ministry will rely on the new consultation framework as a vehicle to assist government and First Nations to reach effective and practical arrangements while treaty-making continues.

Core Business Areas

All core functions of the ministry are engaged in reconciliation measures that acknowledge our history and, through constructive action, develop the mutual respect and understanding that will foster a more positive future for Aboriginal people and other British Columbians. Reconciliation is at the heart of cross-government efforts to eliminate the gaps in social and economic outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal citizens throughout the province.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation focuses its resources in three major areas: Aboriginal Relations, Negotiations, and Executive and Support Services.

Changes from the previous service plan include the successful completion of the Economic Development Fund, a three-year program that has concluded with a number of initiatives that have brought significant benefits to Aboriginal communities. Economic development opportunities continue to inform the ministry's actions in Aboriginal Relations and in Negotiations. The First Citizens Fund has been moved to the core business area of Aboriginal Relations as a Special Account.

1. Aboriginal Relations

This core business area facilitates and builds relationships with Aboriginal communities and people through its work with provincial ministries, Aboriginal organizations and the federal government. The outcomes of this work promote culturally responsive, coordinated and effective programs and services for Aboriginal people and further our goals of narrowing the social and economic gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal British Columbians.

This core business area also provides leadership in developing sound government policy and provides a greater voice for Aboriginal people in government policy-making. It supports many social and economic initiatives including: organizational capacity development, youth employment, business development, and language and cultural revitalization.

This area leads the development, tracking and reporting on the results of effective working relationships with First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal organizations, to support shared accountability for investments and results.

In addition, this area supports Aboriginal advisory bodies including the Native Economic Development Advisory Board and the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council. As part of its work to promote Aboriginal languages and culture, it administers the First Citizens Fund, a perpetual fund established by provincial government to enhance cultural, educational and economic development opportunities for Aboriginal people in British Columbia.

2. Negotiations

This core business area leads the provincial government in bringing about long-term reconciliation of Crown and Aboriginal interests through negotiations with First Nations and with an aim to increase certainty over Crown land and resources.

This area leads the province's participation in the negotiation of comprehensive treaties, interim measures and other agreements with First Nations and the federal government, supported by staff in other ministries and agencies across government. These negotiations include a wide range of significant topics, including lands and resources, governance, fiscal relations and capacity-building. This includes consulting with those who may be affected by these negotiations as they progress, such as industry, local government and the public. The ministry is the lead agency in many of these negotiations, but also plays a supportive role in negotiating agreements led by other agencies, such as Forest and Range Opportunity Agreements, and education agreements.

This area is also responsible for leading government's approach to establishing a new policy framework with Aboriginal people in the province, guided by principles of trust, recognition and respect of Aboriginal rights and title. It involves working with Aboriginal leaders and government agencies to negotiate a new framework for consultation and engagement.

In addition, this area leads and coordinates the cross-government implementation of treaties and other agreements as they are concluded, ensuring that all treaty obligations are met.

3. Executive and Support Services

This core business provides the ministry with leadership, direction and administrative support services including: financial administration and budget coordination, strategic and business planning and reporting, records management, human resource management, facilities and office management as well as information systems planning and management.

Resource Summary

Core Business Areas	2005/06 Restated Estimates[1]	2006/07 Estimates	2007/08 Plan	2008/09 Plan
Operating Expenses ($000)				
Negotiations	19,983	20,057	19,195	19,235
Aboriginal Relations				
* includes First Citizens Fund Special Account	9,745	7,699	8,000	8,000
Executive and Support Services	4,265	5,222	5,220	5,226
Total	**33,993**	**32,978**	**32,415**	**32,455**
Full-time Equivalents (FTEs)				
Direct FTEs	104	125	125	125
Total	**104**	**125**	**125**	**125**
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) ($000)				
Executive and Support Services	52	276	32	32
Total	**52**	**276**	**32**	**32**
Other Financing Transactions ($000)				
Negotiations				
Treaty Settlement Costs	3,589	5,229	1,089	5,761
Total Disbursements	3,589	5,229	1,089	5,761
Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)	(3,589)	(5,229)	(1,089)	(5,761)

[1] These amounts have been restated, for comparative purposes only, to be consistent with the presentation of the 2006/07 *Estimates*. Schedule A of the *Estimates* presents a detailed reconciliation.

Expenses by Ministry Goal

Expense Breakdown by Goal

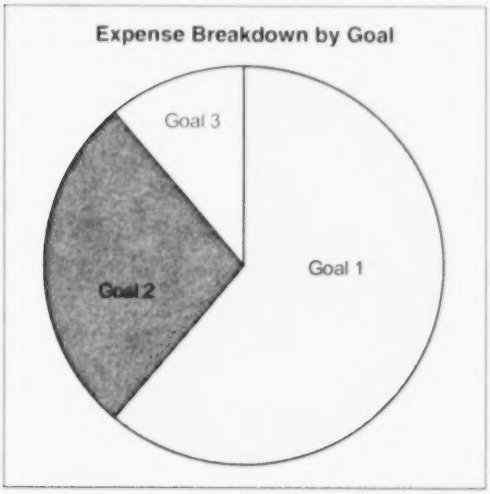
Goals:

1. Conclude treaties and other lasting agreements on Crown lands and natural resources with First Nations. **Approximately 61%**
2. Improve social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people. **Approximately 28%**
3. Build strong and respectful relationships between government and Aboriginal organizations. **Approximately 11%**

It is important to note that all three of the goals are inter-related, as strong and respectful relationships are important to achieve agreements on lands and resources, and to close the socio-economic gap.

Expenses by Ministry Goal

Expense Breakdown by Goal



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Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Results

Overview

This section identifies the ministry's goals and outlines how specific objectives and strategies will contribute to the achievement of these goals. Brief descriptions are provided on some of the initiatives and activities the ministry will undertake to achieve its goals and objectives. Performance measures and targets have been established that link to the ministry's goals and objectives, and prior year results are provided for comparison. Progress in achieving the targets identified will be monitored and reported on in Annual Service Plan Reports.

Ministry Goals

The ministry's mission is to eliminate the socio-economic gap between Aboriginal people and other British Columbians to ensure that Aboriginal people share in the benefits of reaching the Five Great Goals.

In order to realize this, the ministry will need to focus its resources, and work collaboratively with Aboriginal organizations and other government agencies, in order to:

1. Conclude treaties and other lasting agreements on lands and natural resources with First Nations.
2. Improve social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people.
3. Build strong and respectful relationships between government and Aboriginal organizations.

Linkage to the Five Great Goals

The ministry will work with other ministries and agencies to ensure that, where appropriate, goals and practical outcomes specific to Aboriginal people are identified in their service plans. Indicators of success in each of the great goal areas may include but are not limited to:

Goal 1: Best educated, most literate

- Arrangements that allow a seamless system between First Nations schools and public schools.
- Preservation, revitalization, retention and teaching of Aboriginal languages.
- Improved K – 12 completion rates for Aboriginal people.
- Increased Aboriginal post-secondary participation.

Goal 2: Leading the way in healthy living

- Reduction in the incidence of preventable diseases, substance abuse and youth suicide among Aboriginal people.
- Increased number of trained Aboriginal health professionals.

Goal 3: Best system of support

- Improved access to satisfactory housing for Aboriginal people.
- Reduced number of Aboriginal children in care.

Goal 4: Leading sustainable environmental management

- Negotiation of agreements and treaties that provide opportunities for First Nations to engage in both economic and environmental benefits.

Goal 5: Create more jobs per capita

- Negotiation of agreements that incorporate First Nations into regional and provincial economies.
- Support for the development of an integrated Aboriginal tourism and cultural strategy.

Cross-Ministry Initiatives

The ministry is actively involved in the following cross-ministry initiatives, led by other ministries, which support the Five Great Goals. The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation will collaborate with these agencies to ensure initiatives and their outcomes contribute to the new relationship.

Literacy: the First Citizens Fund supports the preservation and teaching of Aboriginal languages.

Crystal Meth: the ministry supports the promotion of grants to First Nations and Aboriginal communities who want to work on drug prevention and treatment strategies.

ActNow: the ministry supports the incorporation of ActNow into preventative health programs to reduce incidence of preventable illness.

The Children's Agenda: the ministry supports initiatives to strengthen the capacity of Aboriginal families and communities to care for their children.

Mountain Pine Beetle: the ministry supports opportunities for First Nations to work to mitigate the beetle's impact and diversify regional economies.

The 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games: the ministry supports the implementation of agreements with the four Host Nations (Squamish, Lil'wat, Tsleil-Waututh and Musqueam).

Asia-Pacific Strategy: the ministry supports an integrated Aboriginal tourism and cultural strategy, including the 2008 North American Indigenous Games, to attract Asia-Pacific visitors. Markets for Aboriginal business products are to be expanded.

Performance Plan

Goal 1: *Conclude treaties and other lasting agreements on Crown lands and natural resources with First Nations.*

Transforming the way we conduct our relations with First Nations means the ministry will broaden its measures of progress in treaties. Traditional measures such as comprehensive agreements-in-principle or final treaty agreements are included in this goal; smaller or more discrete agreements that will build other lasting agreements and treaties incrementally will also be measured.

The measures indicated are incremental: by adding additional agreements or milestones, we will be moving toward the overall goal of reconciliation with First Nations throughout the province. As social and economic outcomes improve for First Nations, the ministry anticipates that this will support and foster continued momentum for final treaty or other lasting agreements.

Core Business Areas: *Negotiations and Aboriginal Relations*

Performance Measure	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Actual	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target	2008/09 Target
Percentage of BC Crown land covered by agreements with First Nations.[1]	32%	37%[2]	+1%	+3%	+4%	+4%

[1] Calculated as of March 31, 2004, the base figure for the amount of Crown land covered by agreements is 28,753,499 ha and includes all agreements across government.

[2] Previously estimated in February 2005/06 Service Plan as 33%, the increase was achieved primarily through the contribution of ongoing negotiations by the Ministry of Forests and Range with the achievement of 33 Forest and Range Agreements in 2004/05.

Objective 1: *Conclude agreements that define rights and responsibilities and facilitate economic development.*

Key strategies include: focusing on key opportunities to conclude agreements with First Nations; providing leadership to line ministries and provincial agencies to support consultation and accommodation activities; consulting with key stakeholders on issues under negotiation; strengthening relations between First Nations and non-First Nation business interests; introducing improved practices related to the timely transfer of Crown

land, resources and program responsibility to First Nations following treaties or other agreements.

The ministry is also working towards helping local governments strengthen their relationships with First Nation communities, which includes facilitating discussions on common issues such as service agreements. These discussions have strong impacts on the ability of the parties to make progress in the treaty process or to establish good working relationships between neighboring communities.

Performance Measures	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Actual	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target	2008/09 Target
Number of new initiatives that partner First Nations or Aboriginal organizations with local governments and the private sector.	5	6	+4–6	+5–7	+6–8	+7–10
Number of new significant agreements or business arrangements between First Nations and government.[1]	1	3	+2–3	+3–4	+4–5	+5–6
Number of treaty agreements or initiatives that build incremental progress towards treaties or other lasting agreements.[2]	4	1	+4–7	+6–9	+8–11	+10–13

[1] Refers to significant accommodation agreements with cross-ministry impacts.

[2] Refers to the number of initialed final agreements and agreements-in-principle. Also refers to agreements such as land transfers to First Nations or land protection measures that build momentum and make progress towards treaties or other lasting agreements. These land transfers or land protection measures can be with First Nations in the treaty process or with First Nations currently not engaged in the treaty process.

Goal 2: *Improve social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people.*

The ministry provides leadership across government to develop and implement policies that will promote culturally responsive, coordinated and effective programs and services for Aboriginal people in British Columbia.

Government has committed to setting a ten-year plan, together with Aboriginal leaders, to eliminate the social and economic disparities between Aboriginal people and other British Columbians. It is crucial to recognize that the success of such a plan depends on government's shared ability to initiate early action, which will build the confidence and impetus necessary to achieve broad support. Accordingly, the focus in years one and two of the plan will be on concrete actions that have an on-the-ground immediate impact in Aboriginal communities.

Core Business Areas: *Aboriginal Relations*

Performance Measure	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Actual	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target	2008/09 Target
Cross-government measurement framework for closing the social-economic gap.[1]	N/A	N/A	N/A	Measurement framework established	Annual report on progress	Annual report on progress

[1] This measure reflects commitments made with First Nations through the new relationship and the Transformative Change Accord, signed at the First Ministers Meeting by British Columbia, Canada and First Nations leadership. It also reflects commitments set out in tripartite Métis and urban Aboriginal agreements. This measure includes reporting and tracking of cross-government social-economic outcomes for Aboriginal people.

Objective 1: *Cross-government implementation of programs and services to address socio-economic disparities.*

Key strategies include: improving access to and quality of services for Aboriginal people through enhanced inter-ministry coordination and partnerships; supporting capacity development within Aboriginal communities toward the delivery of culturally appropriate programs and services; and providing opportunities for Aboriginal entrepreneurs to develop or expand businesses.

Accords and protocol agreements have been signed with First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal organizations in association with the federal government that focus on housing, health and education. For example, this ministry is working with the Ministry of Education and the federal government on an agreement to recognize First Nation jurisdiction over education, including better coordination and delivery of education services to Aboriginal people. The agreement will provide First Nation communities with the ability to take on more responsibility for their children's education, as well as integrate more culturally meaningful curriculum materials.

Core Business Areas: *Aboriginal Relations*

Performance Measures	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Actual	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target	2008/09 Target
Number of initiatives/actions undertaken through cross-government plans to assist in closing the socio-economic gap.	N/A	N/A	N/A	3–5	+4–6	+5–7
Increased partnerships with federal government and Aboriginal organizations to improve social and economic programs and services.[1]	N/A	N/A	N/A	2–3 new partnership arrangements	+4–6	+5–10

[1] For example, development and implementation of the B.C. Aboriginal Workforce Strategy will result in increased access to employment opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Goal 3: *Build strong and respectful relationships between government and Aboriginal organizations.*

The ministry is committed to fulfilling its leadership responsibilities in achieving a new relationship and transforming the way in which ministries across government interact with Aboriginal people. Performance measures for that major transformation will differ across government, but each ministry and agency will exemplify some change in the way it carries out its responsibilities. Key to the success of achieving this goal is developing formal mechanisms for meaningful dialogue between government, Aboriginal leaders and communities. Measures include broad comprehensive agreements or processes such as the joint BC/First Nation management process to implement the new relationship and annual meetings between First Nations and the provincial Cabinet.

Much of government's success in transforming the way it interacts with Aboriginal people depends on how Aboriginal people perceive government activities. The Ministry and Aboriginal leaders will work together to identify practical ideas and begin early activities that will provide meaningful change in cross-government relations with Aboriginal people. The ministry will share these findings within government and invite further dialogue on beginning and maintaining the practical side of the new relationship.

Core Business Areas: *Aboriginal Relations, Negotiations*

Performance Measure	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Actual	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target	2008/09 Target
Number of engagements with Aboriginal organizations on provincial policy development.[1]	1	2	+1–2	+3–5	+3–5	+3–5

[1] Refers to the number of provincial policies that have been processed through First Nations and other Aboriginal organizations, which may include discussion and engagement with community representatives.

Objective 1: *Build trust with Aboriginal people through a reconciliation and recognition framework.*

Key strategies include: working cooperatively with First Nations to identify an agenda of activities focused on reconciliation and recognition; developing policies, positions and mandates consistent with the principles of reconciliation and recognition that improve relationships between Aboriginal people, the Crown, local governments and all citizens; provide leadership to line ministries and provincial agencies undertaking reconciliation activities; undertake initiatives to increase public awareness and understanding to promote a vision of reconciliation.

For example, the ministry has been working directly with First Nation leaders to develop processes for engaging First Nations in the government policies that affect First Nation communities. A Management Committee has been established with representatives from the three First Nation provincial organizations and key Deputy Ministers from across government. Government has also created a special advisory position within the Premier's Office on Aboriginal issues that provides strategic advice to government. This position has been closely involved in discussions with First Nation leaders.

Performance Measures	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Actual	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target	2008/09 Target
Number of agreements reached with Aboriginal organizations that foster reconciliation and recognition.[1]	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	+15	+20
Number of sessions/events undertaken to increase awareness of Aboriginal issues in British Columbia.[2]	105	115	+115–120	+115–120	+115–120	+115–120

[1] Including agreements regarding Aboriginal place naming and language preservation.

[2] Sessions/events undertaken include public meetings, public events, open houses and signing ceremonies.

Objective 2: ***Foster engagement with Aboriginal people in government decisions that impact Aboriginal communities.***

Key strategies include: developing and implementing the $100 million New Relationship Fund; developing with First Nations a new effective consultation and accommodation framework; providing leadership to line ministries to engage with First Nations more fully; and establishing a First Nations Secretariat that government will work with to further our mutual goals.

Performance Measures	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Actual	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target	2008/09 Target
First Nations consultation framework.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Framework complete	N/A	N/A
Implement a $100M New Relationship Fund.	N/A	N/A	Fund in place	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing

Changes to Goals, Objectives, Strategies, Performance Measures and Targets

Some performance measures and targets have been adjusted to reflect the outcomes agreed to at the First Ministers Meeting on November 25, 2005. Others have been adjusted to provide more practical information to readers.

Ministry Performance Plan Summary

Ministry Mission

The ministry provides leadership across government that will, over the next decade, bridge the social and economic gaps that many Aboriginal people face in British Columbia. While working collaboratively with Aboriginal organizations, the federal government and other partners to support the goals of the new relationship, the ministry will continue to negotiate and implement treaties and other lasting agreements.

Five Great Goals	Ministry Goals	Ministry Objectives	Performance Measures
Great Goal 4 To lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality and the best fisheries management, bar none. **Great Goal 5** To create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.	1. Conclude treaties and other lasting agreements on Crown lands and natural resources with First Nations.		Percentage of BC Crown land covered by agreements with First Nations.
		1.1 Conclude agreements that define rights and responsibilities and facilitate economic development.	Number of new initiatives that partner First Nations or Aboriginal organizations with local governments and the private sector. Number of new significant agreements or business arrangements between First Nations and government. Number of treaty agreements or initiatives that build incremental progress towards treaties or other lasting agreements.
Great Goal 1 To make British Columbia the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent. **Great Goal 2** To lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness. **Great Goal 3** To build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, special needs, children at risk and seniors. **Great Goal 5** To create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.	2. Improve social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people.		Cross-government measurement framework for closing the social-economic gap.
		2.1 Cross-government implementation of programs and services to address socio-economic disparities.	Number of initiatives/actions undertaken through cross-government plans to assist in closing the socio-economic gap. Increased partnerships with federal government and Aboriginal organizations to improve social and economic programs and services.
	3. Build strong and respectful relationships between government and Aboriginal organizations.		Number of engagements with Aboriginal organizations on provincial policy development.
		3.1 Build trust with Aboriginal people through a reconciliation and recognition framework.	Number of agreements reached with Aboriginal organizations that foster reconciliation and recognition. Number of sessions/events undertaken to increase awareness of Aboriginal issues in British Columbia.
		3.2 Foster engagement with Aboriginal people in government decisions that impact Aboriginal communities.	First Nations consultation framework. Implement a $100M New Relationship Fund.

Ministry Performance Plan Summary

Five Great Goals

Ministry Mission

The ministry provides leadership across government that will, over the next decade, bridge the social and economic gaps that many Aboriginal people face in British Columbia. While working collaboratively with Aboriginal organizations, the federal government and other partners to support the goals of the new relationship, the ministry will continue to negotiate and implement treaties and other lasting agreements.

Five Great Goals	Ministry Goals	Ministry Objectives	Performance Measures
Great Goal 4 To lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality and the best fisheries management, bar none. **Great Goal 5** To create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.	1. Conclude treaties and other lasting agreements on Crown lands and natural resources with First Nations.		Percentage of BC Crown land covered by agreements with First Nations.
		1.1 Conclude agreements that define rights and responsibilities and facilitate economic development.	Number of new initiatives that partner First Nations or Aboriginal organizations with local governments and the private sector. Number of new significant agreements or business arrangements between First Nations and government. Number of treaty agreements or initiatives that build incremental progress towards treaties or other lasting agreements.
Great Goal 1 To make British Columbia the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent. **Great Goal 2** To lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness. **Great Goal 3** To build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, special needs, children at risk and seniors. **Great Goal 5** To create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.	2. Improve social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people.		Cross-government measurement framework for closing the social-economic gap.
		2.1 Cross-government implementation of programs and services to address socio-economic disparities.	Number of initiatives/actions undertaken through cross-government plans to assist in closing the socio-economic gap. Increased partnerships with federal government and Aboriginal organizations to improve social and economic programs and services.
	3. Build strong and respectful relationships between government and Aboriginal organizations.		Number of engagements with Aboriginal organizations on provincial policy development.
		3.1 Build trust with Aboriginal people through a reconciliation and recognition framework.	Number of agreements reached with Aboriginal organizations that foster reconciliation and recognition. Number of sessions/events undertaken to increase awareness of Aboriginal issues in British Columbia.
		3.2 Foster engagement with Aboriginal people in government decisions that impact Aboriginal communities.	First Nations consultation framework. Implement a $100M New Relationship Fund.

Related Initiatives and Planning Processes

Overview of Information Resource Management Plan

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation's Information Resource Management Plan is available on the ministry website at: http://www.gov.bc.ca/arr/plans.